

D5474

FILE No. D. 5474

C. & S. B. REGISTRY

SUBJECT:

*Leopold Weiss (Austrian) alias  
Muhammed Asadullah Khan, anti-British  
agitator*

NAME

SENT TO

DATE

*Filed in*

**CONFIDENTIAL  
DRAWER**

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*Very Secret*

9th November 1933

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE	
C. & S. B. REGISTRY.	
No. D	5474
Date	19/11/33

Secret & Personal

My dear Givens,

I forward for your information alone the history sheet of one LEOPOLD WEISS @ Muhammad Asad Ullah Vyce, a convert to Mohammadanism and an Austrian citizen, who is known definitely to be in the employ of the King of the Hedjaz and who is expected to arrive in China in the near future. According to a statement made by Weiss himself the object of his mission to China will be limited to propaganda in the interests of the Hajj but he will also interest himself in commercial matters. In as much as this man is a notorious Anglophobe I shall be grateful if a watch can be kept for his arrival.

Yours sincerely,

*Ismael*

T.P. Givens, Esq.,

Special Branch,

S.M.P.

*S2, Please see and pass Wkey. filed in secret drawer. noted 17/11/33. W.B.*

NOV. 17 1933

VISIONARY SCHEM OF HERR LEOPOLD WEISS ALIAS MOHAMMAD ASAD  
ULIAN VYCE. AT HIS RIAN CONVERT TO MUHAMMADANISM.

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Dr. Leopold Weiss first came to notice in August 1924, when the British Minister at Tehran granted him a transshipment visa for travelling to Abissinia (Abyssinia) via Karachi, Bombay and Aden. At the time, Weiss was in possession of Passport No. 241, issued at Vienna on 7.1.1924, and it was reported that he would embark at Dushire and arrive in India about the end of September. The Police at Karachi and Bombay, who were asked to advise this Bureau of Weiss' arrival, reported that he had not passed through the Ports at their end.

Weiss next came to notice at Duzdap (now Zahidan) where he was reported to have arrived from Kerman on the 4th April 1925. He left Duzdap for Kabul via Sistan on the 11th April, and arrived at the latter place in the beginning of June, when he ran short of funds. He applied to the British Consul at Sistan for a loan of Rs. 400/- to enable him to reach Kabul via India. The money was advanced to him on the German Charge d'Affaires, Kabul, guaranteeing repayment of the loan, and the Government of India agreed to Weiss' transiting India on the condition that he would not break journey in British territory on his way to Kabul. He, however, travelled over-land and arrived in Kabul via Meshed and Herat in November '25.

A secret report dated October 1926, stated that Dr. Leopold Weiss, of 5 Stubenstrasse, Berlin, late Correspondent of the "Frankfurter Zeitung" in Persia, India and the East, has recently returned from a trip in Afghanistan, Persia, Turkestan and the Far East. The report further stated that Weiss was alleged to be a definite agent of the German Government and to have been engaged in intelligence work in the Near East since 1920. He was described as a

violent Anglophobe engaged in active anti-British propaganda in German and Oriental circles. He claimed to be personally acquainted with prominent anti-British Oriental agitators and was said to be on excellent terms with Mansur Rifaat and other Egyptian and Indian agitators in Berlin. At the time i.e. in 1926, he was agitating for the establishment in Berlin of a German Oriental newspaper to support anti-British movements and German interests in the East. In the beginning of 1927, he intended to leave Berlin for Syria, Palestine and Arabia, and it was thought that he would become a Muslim (at least nominally).

In May 1927, Weiss attempted to enter Palestine from Kantara, but was refused admission, and subsequently his name was placed on the list of persons to whom visas for Palestine should not be granted without reference vide attached copy of Foreign Office Circular, No. 33213, dated September 1927.

Weiss was located at Mecca in the Hajj season of 1927, when a number of men from different Muslim countries including some notorious Khilafat agitators from the Punjab, met together and discussed questions relating to the future of India. According to a very secret report Weiss took part in these discussions as the representative of a society called "Jamiat-Jandallah-el-Islamia", Berlin, under the name of Muhammad Asad Ullah Vyce.

AS a result of these discussions, two revolutionary schemes were drawn up and handed over to the Soviet representative at Jeddah. The first scheme, which was proposed by Dr. Abdul Ghani, provided inter alia that the Soviet Government should sanction at least three lacs of rupees for the training of young boys, who would incite the masses to revolution. The second scheme provided for the establishment of a revolutionary "Centre" in Soviet territory close to the Kashmir border, where "Young and desperate" Indian Muhajirs, recruited from the most turbulent parts of India, could be trained under the military supervision of the Soviet Government.

According to a Secret Report dated the 3rd November 1927, Weiss was received into the Muslim faith by Dr. Jabbar Khori, the founder of the "Jamiat-Jamallah-ul-Islamia" society in Berlin. Dr Jabbar Khori started it as a proselytised centre for Islam, but subsequently he and his supporters were ejected from the society by persons who were said to be instruments of the Communist International, and who, it was alleged, had become Muslim to penetrate Muslim countries.

According to a secret report dated 4.6.1932, Weiss was a great friend of the ex-King Amanullah and was specially honoured by the latter when he was in Afghanistan. The report further stated that at the instigation of M. Ismail Ghaznavi (of Amritsar), Haji A. Asfilla (Leopold Weiss) a German spy. was intending to exploit India as well as Java and China, and that he would tour India in the company of Ismail Ghaznavi with a view to get into touch with all important workers.

Weiss arrived in Karachi by the s.s. "Alavi" on the 17th June 1932, and left for Amritsar on the 19th June where he was to put up with M. Ismail Ghaznavi. While in Karachi, he is said to have visited Maulvi Mohamed Sadik of Khada and Sheikh Abdul Majid, who are well-known agitators.

Weiss was born at Lemberg (Austria) <sup>(GALICIA - POLAND)</sup> on the 12th July 1900, and his description is as follows:- <sup>Hungary</sup>

Height	5'9"
Build	Slim
Complexion	Fair
Speaks	German, Arabic and English.

He holds passport No. 4275, dated 12.5.32, issued by the Austrian Consul-General at Cairo, bearing visa No. 203, granted by H.B.M.'s Consul at Jeddah on the 25th May 1932.

In his visiting card Weiss described himself as the Special Correspondent of the "Kölnische Zeitung" (Cologne), Neue Zürcher Zeitung (Zurich), and De Telegraaf (Amsterdam).

Passport Control Dept.

Foreign Office,

Sept.1927

LEOPOLD WEISS

The above named Austrian citizen, holder of Austrian passport No.1035 issued at Frankfurt on the 8th July 1926, and visa at Berlin for Palestine on 26th January 1927 should not be granted a further visa for Palestine without reference.

Description:

Height 5'9"

Build Slim

Complexion Fair

Wears Spectacles

Specka German, Arabic and fair English

Sgd. H.E.Spencer

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LB . D. SHYH  
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WEISS alias VYCE